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Military buildings acquired by the Government.

* 42 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the list of military buildings in the Province, which the Government have acquired and the price paid in each case;

(*b*) whether any and which, of the said buildings were on private lands;

(*c*) if so, whether the Government have acquired any and which of the said lands and paid any and what amounts as compensation (in each case);

(*d*) for what purposes the Government propose to use the buildings (in each case);

(*e*) whether any, and which of the buildings are vacant at present;

(*f*) whether the Government propose to let them out to the public;

(*g*) whether the Government have drawn up any scheme for utilizing the military buildings in Avadi Base;

(*h*) if so, the main points of the scheme; and

(*i*) at what stage the scheme is, and the reasons for the delay in putting the scheme into execution?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) & (*d*) The information is given in a statement[a] laid on the table of the House.

" (*b*) Except in the case of the Meat Dehydration Factories at Anantapur and Ranipet, the A.F.T.T. Camp, Guindy, and the sheds in the King George Hospital Compound, Vizagapatam, the camps referred to under clause (*a*) above are mostly on private land.

" (*c*) The Government have not yet acquired the lands. Proposals are under consideration.

" (*e*) Items (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (viii), (ix), (x) and some of the buildings in item (vi) in the statement referred to in clause (*a*) above are vacant now."

" (*f*) No, Sir.

" (*g*) to (*i*) A suggestion was made to utilize the Avadi Base for housing people such as clerks and industrial workers. But no such scheme has been worked out yet in the absence of specific information as to the portions that will be declared surplus and when they will be available."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" I see from the statement laid on the Table of the House that over six lakhs of rupees have been spent in purchasing the Naval Stores Depot, Chromepet. May I know, Sir, whether high prices had to be paid on account of competition? "

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a Printed as Appendix III on pages 44–45 infra.

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Sind Government was prepared to pay as much, if not more."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what is the Institute of Technology referred to? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Naval Stores Depot, Chromepet, are a series of sheds that were constructed by the military and we have now purchased them. Some of the buildings and sites are to be sold to the Madras Institute of Technology, which is an institution recently started."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Will the Government try to take over the buildings available in Avadi and make them a suburb so that the present housing shortage in Madras would be relieved? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That question would arise when those buildings are declared surplus and are available to us."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Will the Government enter into correspondence with the Government of India to use Avadi as a suburb? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" We have already addressed the Government of India. They have not declared them as surplus, and so we cannot proceed further."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government have represented to the Government of India that none of the buildings should be declared surplus without their knowledge? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Have the Government considered whether the buildings declared surplus, so far, would be suitable for housing schemes? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" So far as the buildings that have been declared surplus, none of them would be suitable for house-building schemes."

Selection of men over forty for Government service.

* 43* *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government servants who have completed the age of forty are eligible for appointments as (i) Assistant Commercial Tax Officers, (ii) Taluk Supply Officers, (iii) Textile Officers and (iv) Assistant Rationing Officers;

(*b*) whether, as in the case of Deputy Tahsildars, these selections from men over 40 are made by the Board of Revenue and, if not, by whom are these selections made and why;

(*c*) how many such selections were made during the last official year from the age groups of 40 to 45, 45 to 50 and 50 to 55 respectively;